Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 097584 TOSEC 040080
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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM PA/PRESS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: SUNDAY AFTERNOON PRESS SUMMARY

NO. 6

RADIO/TV

SATURDAY EVENING CBS (TV) NEWS:

SCHIEFFER: THERE WAS AN UNEXPECTED SETBACK TODAY TO BRITISH AND AMERICAN EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO ALL CONCERNED PARTIES. THE HITCH DEVELOPED ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE TALKS IN TANZANIA'S CAPITAL BETWEEN THE PATRIOTIC FRONT GUERRILLA LEADERS, SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE AND BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 097584 TOSEC 040080

KALB: IT WAS AT THIS AFTERNOON'S SESSION THAT THE RHODESIAN GUERRILLA LEADERS SUDDENLY LAUNCHED THEIR SURPRISE. ROBERT MUGABE AND JOSHUA NKOMO SET FORTH DEMANDS THAT ARE IN FUNDAMENTAL CONFLICT WITH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN FOR A PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO BLACK MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, DEMANDS THAT PRODUCED HIGHLY VISIBLE SIGNS OF FRUSTRATION AND DISAPPOINTMENT WITHIN THE DELEGATONS LED

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

BY SECRETARY VANCE AND BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN.

WHAT THE GUERRILLAS ARE INSISTING ON IS A GREATER SHARE OF POWER IN BOTH THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND THE POLICE FORCE ENVISAGED UNDER THE US-BRITISH APPROACH. THE GUERRILLA DEMAND SEEMED TO PRODUCE A SENSE OF STALEMATE ON THESE ISSUES, PROMPTING US OFFICIALS TO SAY LATER THAT THESE COULD ONLY BE NEGOTIATED AT A CONFERENCE ATTENDED BY ALL THE RIVAL RHODESIAN FACTIONS. THIS WOULD INCLUDE PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH AND THE MODERATE BLACK LEADERS INSIDE RHODESIA AS WELL AS THE GUERRILLAS BASED OUTSIDE. IT WAS ON THIS LATTER POINT -- ON A CONFERENCE OF ALL THE RHODESIAN FACTIONS -- THAT THE US-BRITISH DELEGATIONS SCORED PROGRESS.

MUGABE AND NKOMO AGREED TO SUCH A GET-TOGETHER -- NO MAJOR

SURPRISE. THE IMPORTANT THING, THOUGH, IS THAT THIS IS NOW A PUBLIC AND FORMAL FACT IN THE VIOLENT REALITY OF RHODESIAN POLITICS. BUT SIGNIFICANTLY, THE INTERNAL RHODESIAN LEADERS HAVE REJECTED THE IDEA OF ANY SUCH CONFERENCE. THEY ARE STICKING WITH THEIR OWN RECENTLY ANNOUNCED POLITICAL SETTLEMENT BETWEEN BLACKS AND WHITES.

THE GUERRILLA ACCEPTANCE OF A CONFERENCE REPRESENTS A PLUS FOR US AFRICAN POLICY. BUT VANCE COULD STILL FAIL
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TO GET THE RHODESIANS TO REVERSE THEIR POSITION AND AGREE TO SUCH A CONFERENCE. IF THAT SHOULD HAPPEN THE EXPECTATION IS THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WOULD THEN STEP UP ITS WAR, AND THAT COULD LEAD TO PRECISELY WHAT THE US IS TRYING TO PREVENT: EXPANDED SOVIET AND CUBAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

SCHIEFFER: VANCE AND OWEN TRAVEL TO THE RHODESIAN CAPITAL ON MONDAY, BUT FIRST THEY MAKE A ONE-DAY STOP IN PRE-TORIA, SOUTH AFRICA, TO ENLIST SOUTH AFRICAN SUPPORT FOR THEIR EFFORTS.

ABC-TV EVENING NEWS

ANCHOR SYLVIA CHASE: BLACK DISSIDENT RHODESIAN LEADERS ARE REPORTED DISPLEASED BY SOME FEATURES OF AN ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN TO TRANSFER POWER IN RHODESIA TO THE BLACK MAJORITY. THEY'RE MEETING THIS WEEKEND IN TANZANIA WITH SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE AND BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DAVID OWEN.

NBC-TV NIGHTLY NEWS (SATURDAY)

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

ANCHOR JOHN HART: IN TANZANIA, JOSHUA NKOMO AND ROBERT

MUGABE, THE RHODESIAN GUERRILLAS, TOLD SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE TODAY, "ALLRIGHT": THEY'LL BE WILLING TO MEET WITH RHODESIA'S BIRACIAL GOVERNMENT, AND WHEN THEY DO THEY WILL DEMAND HALF THE JOBS IN THE GOVERNING COUNCIL. KNOWING THIS, THE GOVERNMENT IS UNLIKELY TO ATTEND SUCH A MEETING.

NEW YORK TIMES --

BERNARD GWERTZMAN FROM DAR ES SALAAM (PAGE 1)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 097584 TOSEC 040080

LEAD: "RHODESIAN GUERRILLA LEADERS HAVE DEMANDED WHAT SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE CALLED 'FUNDAMENTAL' CHANGES IN THE BRITISH-AMERICAN PLAN THAT WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR AN ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE ON THEIR NATION'S FUTURE."

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE TERMED PATRIOTIC FRONT PROPOSALS IN SOME AREAS "VERY NEW AND FUNDAMENTAL IDEAS," WHILE STATING "PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN SOME AREAS."

-- AMERICAN OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT PATRIOTIC FRONT PROPOSED CHANGING BRITISH-AMERICAN PLAN IN AT LEAST TWO KEY AREAS: THEY DEMANDED DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN THE POLICE RCE DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD AND PARITY IN THE TRANSITION GOVERNING COUNCIL.

-- AMERICAN OFFICIALS ALSO INDICATED THAT PATRIOTIC FRONT DROPPED PREVIOUS OBJECTIONS TO STATIONING UN FORCES TO HELP SUPERVISE ELECTIONS.

-- AT MID-DAY, APRIL 15, ANGLO-AMERICAN SIDE AND PF ANNOUNCED THAT LATTER HAD AGREED TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE BUT THAT SALISBURY HAD NOT DROPPED ITS OBJECTION TO SUCH A CONFERENCE.

-- LATER MEETING OF BRITISH, AMERICANS, THE PF, THE FIVE FRONT-LINE STATES AND NIGERIA FAILED TO RESOLVE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PF AND THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN.

-- VANCE ALSO MET WITH NUJOMA TO DISCUSS NAMIBIA.

WASHINGTON POST
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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

MURREY MARDER FROM DAR ES SALAAM. PAGE 1

LEAD: "THE ANGLO.AMERICAN PLAN FOR BLACK MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA FOUNDERED IN DISCORD YESTERDAY WHEN LEADERS OF THE GUERRILLAS DEMANDED 'FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES.'"

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE AND OWEN ENDED TWO-DAY CONFERENCE WITH PF "IN UNCONCEALED, BASIC DISAGREEMENT."

-- PRES CARTER'S PRESTIGE IS HEAVILY INVESTED IN BRINGING PEACE AND DEMOCRATIC RULE TO RHODESIA.

-- AMERICAN OFFICIAL QUOTED AS INDICATING THAT CHANGES PROPOSED BY PF WERE SUBSTANTIAL AND THAT "THERE IS NO INTENTION ON ANYONE'S PART TO PAPER OVER THE DIFFERENCES."

-- ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN IS NOW "VIRTUALLY ORPHANED."

-- QUOTED COMMUNIQUE TO THE EFFECT THAT A FURTHER CONFERENCE SHOULD BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

-- VANCE SOUGHT TO EMPHASIZE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF COMMUNIQUE.

-- NKOMO AND MUGABE QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS AN ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE."

-- MUGABE SAID THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WOULD NOT INVITE THE CUBANS OR THE RUSSIANS TO BE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN BATTLE.

-- REPORTERS ON VANCE'S PLANE WERE TOLD ON THURSDAY THAT THE FRONT HAD AGREED "IN PRINCIPLE" TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE STILL UNRESOLVED ISSUES.
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-- BRITISH AND AMERICAN SOURCES INDICATED THEY WERE ACCORDINGLY "STUNNED" TO FIND THAT THE FRONT'S DEMANDS WERE STIFFER THAN EVER AND MADE "CAUSTIC CHARGES" PRI-VATELY OF HAVING BEEN "LED DOWN THE GARDEN PATH" BY FRONT-LINE STATES AT LAGOS.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

WASHINGTON STAR.

HENRY BRADSHER FROM DAR ES SALAAM. PAGE 1

LEAD: "BRITISH AND AMERICAN DIPLOMATS FAILED EARLY TODAY TO ATTAIN THEIR GOAL FOR THE FIRST HALF OF AN 11TH-HOUR EFFORT TO AVOID ESCALATION OF THE RHODESIAN GUERRILLA WAR."

OTHER POINTS:

-- OWEN AND VANCE ARE NOW LEFT "WITHOUT SUPPORT" FOR THE PROPOSALS THEY HAD HOPED TO USE TO PRESSURE THE RHODESIAN REGIME.

-- AN ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE IS NOW GIVEN LITTLE CHANCE BY INVOLVED DIPLOMATS.

-- NKOMO INDICATED THAT THE WAR WILL NOW BE INTENSIFIED.

-- DIFFERENCES STILL EXIST OVER THE POWERS TO BE GIVEN THE UN FORCE IN MAINTAINING ORDER AND SUPERVISING ELECTIONS, AS WELL AS OVER THE TWO MAIN POINTS OF DISAGREEMENT (COMPOSITION OF POLICE FORCE AND OF GOVERNING COUNCIL.)

-- AN AMERICAN OFFICIAL STATED THAT THE STRINGENT FRONT DEMANDS "RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE CREDIBILITY OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 097584 TOSEC 040080

ELECTION PROCESS."

WIRES

REUTERS

ROY GUTMAN FROM DAR ES SALAAM .

LEAD: RHODESIAN GUERRILLA LEADERS TODAY SNUBBED ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS FOR A PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THEIR COUNTRY AND DEMANDED ESTABLISHMENT OF A SINGLE-PARTY MARXIST STATE."

OTHER POINT:

-- MUGABE INDICATED THAT THE FRONT IS STICKING TO ITS HARD-LINE POSITION AND THAT THE FRONT REGARDED A MULTI-PARTY SYSTEM AS A "LUXURY" NOT REQUIRED BY RHODESIA AT THIS TIME.

AP

BARRY SCHWEID FROM DAR ES SALAAM

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

LEAD: "THE US-BRITISH DRIVE FOR A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT FOUNDERED TODAY OVER NEW DEMANDS BY GUERRILLA LEADERS FOR A LARGER ROLE IN ANY TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO BLACK MAJORITY RULE."

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE STATED THAT EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE TO "SET UP AN ALL-PARTYCONFERENCE BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL."

-- US OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT SMALL NUMBERS OF CUBANS ARE HELPING TO TRAIN FRONT GUERRILLAS IN ZAMBIA.

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-- VANCE DECLINED TO DISCUSS DEMANDS OF FRONT, BUT OTHER US OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT THE MAJOR POINTS OF DISAGREEMENT WERE THE COMPOSITION OF THE POLICE FORCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNING COUNCIL.

CHRISTOPHER

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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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20 Mar 2014
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